PRINCIPLES OF BACTERIOLOGY AND IMMUNITY (Topley and Wilson's—Fifth Edition in Two Volumes, Volume I and II—Sir Graham S. Wilson, M.D., LL.D., F.R.C.P., D.P.H., formerly Director of Public Health Laboratory Service, England and Wales; and A. A. Miles, C.B.E., M.D., F.R.C.P., F.R.S., Professor of Experimental Pathology, University of London, and Director of the Lister Institute of Preventive Medicine, London. With the help of R. Knox, M.D., F.R.C.P.; A. D. Macrae, M.D., Dip. Bact.; M. T. Parker, M.D., Dip. Bact.; G. G. Meynell, M.D.; and Elinor W. Meynell, M.B., B. Ch., B.A.O., Dip. Bact. The Williams & Wilkins Company, Baltimore, Md., exclusive U.S. agents, 1964. Volume I—1,191 pages, plus index of 53 pages; and Volume II—1,370 pages, plus index of 53 pages; $35.00 for both volumes.

Thirty-five years ago the first edition of this venerable text contained virtually all available knowledge in Bacteriology and Immunology, in an admirable, balanced presentation. Since World War II the enormous increase in both theoretical and applied knowledge and the vast number of significant publications, have made it virtually impossible to review in a single book comprehensively and in specific detail the rapidly moving fields of immunology, virology, molecular biology, genetics, and all the other specialties of microbiology. The authors recognize this dilemma, but valiantly persist in their effort to have ONE book cover the entire enormous field. They have succeeded remarkably well. The fifth edition, like the first, is a classic of thoughtful, well-informed compilation and documentation. Naturally, the book has become bulky in spite of small print. Very few American physicians or medical students are likely to read all 2,600 pages of the two volumes, but they will find it an excellent detailed reference work, with a wealth of interesting and useful correlations. The book is directed most clearly at bacteriologists, public health workers or epidemiologists, less at physicians concerned with infectious disease. The term "fever" does not appear in the otherwise good index. This reviewer must admit that he has not had the time or strength to read the entire 2,600 pages. However, perusal of limited sections yielded a surprising amount of up-to-date well-integrated information and carefully considered opinion. This book is a must for those who can use it to good advantage.

ERNEST JAWETZ, M.D.

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CLINICAL TOXICOLOGY—Fourth Edition—Clinton H. Thienes, M.D., Ph.D., F.A.C.P., Emeritus Director, Institute of Medical Research, Collis P. and Howard Huntington Memorial Hospital, Pasadena; Emeritus Adjunct Professor of Pharmacology and Toxicology, School of Medicine, University of Southern California, Los Angeles; Consulting Member of Staffs of Huntington Memorial Hospital, Glendale Sanitarium and Hospital, Glendale Memorial Hospital, and Temple Hospital, Los Angeles; Consultant: Boyle & Company; Truesdail Laboratories; and Thomas J. Haley, Ph.D., Research Pharmacologist; Chief, Division of Pharmacology and Toxicology, Laboratory of Nuclear Medicine and Radiation Biology, University of California, Los Angeles. Lea & Febiger, Philadelphia, 1964. 661 pages, $9.50.

This is the fourth edition of a well-known text on clinical toxicology. Its sections are listed according to the site of action of certain of the poisons. For instance, there are sections on convulsive poisons; central nervous system depressants; peripherally acting nerve poisons; muscle, protoplasmic and blood poisons. In my opinion, the book would be very useful for a detailed account of the action of poisons when they are identified. Under each poison listed, there is a consideration of the toxic dose, the etiology, the symptoms and actions, duration, pathology, causes of death and short sections on treatment.

The last section of the book which occupies approximately half of its total volume concerns itself with the chemical diagnosis of poisons including essential equipment, separation of poisons by chemical testing and analyses, microcrystalline tests and other more complex means of identifying poisons.

The book cannot be construed as a manual for the emergency treatment of the common poisons but rather a manual of toxicology which could be used as a reference especially for those physicians who must act on occasion as toxicologists in the absence of specialists in this field. The book might find its use therefore greatest in more isolated areas of practice where proper procedures must be found immediately and in detail and recorded for medical-legal reasons.

FRANK W. NORMAN, M.D.

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THE ZYMOGRAM IN CLINICAL MEDICINE—S. H. Lawrence, M.D., Assistant Clinical Professor, Department of Medical Microbiology and Immunology, University of California Medical School, Los Angeles, Calif. Charles C Thomas, Publisher, Springfield, Illinois, 1964. 100 pages, $5.75.

The medical student and the graduate physician currently are being bombarded with a large number of enzymes which perform important bodily functions. Although he may have a speaking familiarity with the enzyme, the physician often has no idea of the origin, method of separation, and the mode of assay of the substance. In addition to these complexities, many new enzymes have crossed the horizon. To perplex an already obfuscated physician, the measurement of isozymes, which are enzyme fractions with similar catalytic properties but with different electrophoretic mobilities, is being applied to diverse clinical problems. In this small book, Dr. Lawrence has reviewed the problems concerning the nomenclature of isozymes and has discussed the methods of measure of many isozymes that are pertinent to problems in clinical medicine. The enzymes which are covered are acid phosphatase, alkaline phosphatase, 5-nucleotidase, amylase, beta-glucuronidase, aminopeptidase, ribonuclease, lactic acid dehydrogenase, malic dehydrogenase, isocitric dehydrogenase, alcoholic dehydrogenase, glutamic dehydrogenase, beta-hydroxybutyric dehydrogenase, glucose-60-phosphate dehydrogenase, alpha-glycerophosphate dehydrogenase, succinic dehydrogenase, alpha-hydroxybutyric dehydrogenase, cytochrome oxidase, peroxidases, haptoglobin-hemoglobin oxidase, catalase, tyrosinase, ceruloplasmin, monoamine oxidase, transaminases, and lipoprotein associated enzymes. Sprinkled throughout the book are interesting clinical interpretations of the significance of some of the isozyme values. The appendix contains useful information of detailed instructions for many of the various biochemical procedures. This book is recommended to all physicians as it points in the direction of things to come for laboratory diagnoses.

B. J. HAVERBACK, M.D.

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SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS—Applied Pathologic Physiology and Clinical Interpretation—Fourth Edition—Edited by Cyril Mitchell MacBryde, A.B., M.D., F.A.C.P., Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine, Washington University School of Medicine; Assistant Physician, The Barnes Hospital; Director, Metabolism and Endocrine Clinics, Washington University Clinics, St. Louis, Missouri. J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia and Montreal, 1964. 971 pages, $14.00.

In the words of the editor, a basic philosophy of this book is to emphasize the ". . . processes which result in manifestations of the disabilities and derangements of disease." The 31 contributors have done this very well.

At a time when the advancement of scientific knowledge which is applicable to medicine is rapid and frequently dramatic, the practicing physician becomes increasingly aware of the value—even the necessity—of understanding